

The Chair of this committee has not approved these minutes.
PUBLIC SAFETY AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE

DATE: January 25, 2006

CALLED TO ORDER: 5:35 p.m.

ADJOURNED: 6:05 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

Attending Members

Mary Moriarty Adams, Chairwoman
Greg Bowes
Vernon Brown
William Oliver
Lincoln Plowman
Lynn McWhirter

Absent Members

Sherron Franklin
Scott Schneider

AGENDA

PROPOSAL NO. 668, 2005 - appoints Dr. Eugene White to the Marion County
Community Corrections Advisory Board
"Do Pass" Vote: 6-0

PROPOSAL NO. 42, 2006 - approves an increase of \$78,940 in the 2006 Budget of the
Department of Public Safety, Police Division (Non-Lapsing Federal Grants Fund) to
implement a Badges Without Borders program for public safety personnel in foreign
language, cultural and diversity training, financed by a federal grant administered by the
Indiana Criminal Justice Institute in conjunction with the U.S. Department of Justice
"Do Pass" Vote: 6-0

PUBLIC SAFETY AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE

The Public Safety and Criminal Justice Committee of the City-County Council met on Wednesday, January 25, 2006. Chairwoman Mary Moriarty Adams called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m. with the following members present: Greg Bowes, Vernon Brown, William Oliver, Lincoln Plowman, and Lynn McWhirter. Absent were Sherron Franklin and Scott Schneider. Also present was Bart Brown, the Council's Chief Financial Officer.

PROPOSAL NO. 668, 2005 - appoints Dr. Eugene White to the Marion County Community Corrections Advisory Board

Dr. Eugene White stated that he is the Superintendent of the Indianapolis Public Schools (IPS) and that he began that job on July 1, 2005. He said prior to assuming those duties he was the Superintendent of the Washington Township Metropolitan School District for 11 and a half years. Dr. White added that he was also Deputy Superintendent of IPS for 18 months. He believes it is appropriate to have representation from the school district on the Marion County Community Corrections Advisory Board.

Councillor Brown thanks Dr. White for his commitment to the community, to the youth, and also the willingness to take on additional duties.

Councillor Oliver moved, seconded by Councillor Brown, to send Proposal No. 668, 2005 to the full Council with a "Do Pass" recommendation. The motion carried by a vote of 6-0.

PROPOSAL NO. 42, 2006 - approves an increase of \$78,940 in the 2006 Budget of the Department of Public Safety, Police Division (Non-Lapsing Federal Grants Fund) to implement a Badges Without Borders program for public safety personnel in foreign language, cultural and diversity training, financed by a federal grant administered by the Indiana Criminal Justice Institute in conjunction with the U.S. Department of Justice

Elizabeth Allison, Grant Manager for Indianapolis Police Department (IPD), stated that \$15,000 of this funding will be used to pay overtime for IPD sworn officers. The cash match will come from 60 percent of Sergeant Matthew Mount's salary, which amounts to \$33,314. Ms. Allison stated that the State of Indiana requested that the Badges Without Borders program be expanded into Hamilton and Johnson Counties. IPD has offered each of these counties' law enforcement and fire agencies \$10,000 each to use for overtime. She said that \$15,000 will be used for the program, "Partners in Training". Also included in that, the State has allowed \$26,040 to be used for the Immersions program.

Sergeant Matthew Mount, IPD, explained the Immersions program. He said that there are two different levels of training that are involved in the Immersions program. The first is the Emergency Spanish Training that will allow an officer to take a three day Spanish speaking course, and this training will allow the officers to be able to respond to an emergency situation whether it be medical or police related. The officers will be trained to get descriptions of suspects, find out if someone is hurt, and handle a basic traffic stop to communicate and get the specifics. This includes an instructor course, which will train and certify others to be instructors. This is especially important for when Johnson and Hamilton Counties are implemented into the process. Sergeant Mount said that currently there are only two certified personnel to teach that course, and this instructor course will allow other instructors to become certified. He said

that most people ask why a North American is taking charge of the Spanish training program, and the reason is because a North American can explain the different parts of a sentence in Spanish. He said that there are Latinos that are a part of IPD that speak Spanish, but they do not know why they say what they say. The Latinos who are part of IPD say it because they have grown up speaking it but can not define or explain proper sentence structure. Sergeant Mount stated that it takes someone who has had to learn to speak Spanish to be able to teach it correctly. The second part of the training is the Immersion program, which is six months of in-classroom training. After that training, the officers are locked down for 10 days here in Indianapolis where, after the first day, everything else is in Spanish. Lastly, the officers are then sent to an Immersion in a native country where the primary language is Spanish. Sergeant Mount said that there have been about 260 to 280 IPD officers and 60 Indianapolis Fire Department personnel that have gone through the training. Some of these officers are using their training 50 percent of the time they are on duty. The other end of this training is when the officers from the immersion country come to Indianapolis. Their officers get an opportunity to receive some police training that they do not get in their country, and at the same time build up a relationship between the two law enforcement departments for possible contacts should their be an international investigation.

Councillor Oliver asked if this program is an exchange between Indianapolis and the native country. Sergeant Mount answered in the affirmative. He said that when the officers go to the native country they live with those officers and their families the whole time they are there. They eat with the families, the hosting officers are providing any medical care that may be needed, and also they provide any transportation that is necessary. Sergeant Mount stated that the only cost that Indianapolis incurs is getting the officers to this country and back. The same thing occurs when their officers come to Indianapolis. He said that their culture differs from the United States (US) in many ways. In their culture they are not as strict as the US when it comes to things like drunk driving, and child molestation, as well as other things. Sergeant Mount stated that program was developed to pay for itself.

Councillor Brown asked if this program was implemented into the recruit classes. Sergeant Mount stated that IPD has already implemented this training in their new recruit classes. IFD has done a good job but the problem is getting someone from IFD detail and certified permanently to assist in the training.

Councillor McWhirter moved, seconded by Councillor Oliver, to send Proposal No. 42, 2006 to the full Council with a "Do Pass" recommendation. The motion carried by a vote of 6-0.

CONCLUSION

With no further business pending, and upon motion duly made, the Public Safety and Criminal Justice Committee of the City-County Council was adjourned at 6:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Moriarty Adams, Chairwoman
Public Safety and Criminal Justice Committee

MMA/rjp